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special memorial hall, in a niche that is closed with a white marble slab, is placed the urn that contains the ashes of Robert Koch. The walls and floors are all of marble. Over the niche for the urn is a marble tablet on which is a portrait of Koch in relief, larger than life size, and on the opposite wall the chief dates of Koch's life are engraved. On December 11 the special memorial service took place in the new hall of the university. The large hall which seats about 1,500 persons was filled with a mourning throng which included many physicians, especially members of the Berlin medical faculty, representatives of the government and the chief German medical faculties and representatives of many medical societies as well as of foreign universities and societies. The memorial address was delivered by Professor Gaffky, who was for many years a pupil of Koch and is his successor as director of the institute for infectious diseases.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

THE report of the tax appraiser on the Kennedy estate has now been published, showing that the bequests for educational and public purposes are even larger than had been anticipated. Columbia University receives \$2,358,000, New York University \$952,000 and Robert College, Constantinople, \$1,800,000; the bequests to the New York Public Library and the Metropolitan Museum of Art are in the neighborhood of \$2,800,000. Barnard College and Teachers College, Columbia University, each receive \$100,000, as do Hamilton College, Elmira College, Amherst College, Williams College, Bowdoin College, Yale University, Tuskegee Institute and the Hampton Institute. Lafayette College, Oberlin College, Wellesley College, Berea College and Anatolia (Turkey) each receive \$50,000. The bequest to hospitals and to the boards of the Presbyterian Church are very large.

MR. CARNEGIE'S latest gift of \$3,800,000 to the Technical Institute in Pittsburgh is to be used approximately as follows: \$2,300,000 for increase of present endowment, \$1,375,000 for new buildings, \$100,000 for additional equipment and \$25,000 on grounds.

THE residue of his estate, valued formally at "not more than \$50,000," is divided between Yale and the University of Leipzig by the will of Dr. Albert Seesel, a New York physician. With the income there is to be founded at each institution the "Theresa Seesel Fund" in memory of his mother, to be used for researches in biology.

A LECTURESHIP on the history and institutions of the United States has been established at Oxford, to be held by American scholars. The subject matter of the lectureship is to be the political, institutional, economic or social history or conditions of the United States.

THE trustees of the University College of Medicine, Richmond, Va., have awarded contracts for a new college building, to cost \$135,000, to replace the one recently burned.

THE University of Cincinnati sent as delegates to the meeting of the Ohio College Association and the Ohio Association of Medical Teachers at Columbus during the Christmas vacation, President Dabney, Dean Woolley, of the Medical School, and Professor Jones. President Dabney presented a resolution which was unanimously adopted, asking the Board of Medical Examiners of Ohio and the Ohio Medical Association to join with the Ohio College Association in memorializing the legislature to advance the standard for entrance to the medical colleges in Ohio, by requiring that the entering student shall have done two years of college work, including in this work chemistry, physics, biology (each of these with laboratory courses) and modern languages. The Medical College of the University of Cincinnati has already adopted this standard.

DR. W. H. HOWELL has resigned as dean of the Johns Hopkins Medical School, and has been succeeded by Dr. J. Whitridge Williams.

DR. JOSIAH H. PENNIMAN, professor of English and formerly dean of the college department of the University of Pennsylvania, has been chosen vice provost.

DR. DAVID L. EDSALL, professor of medicine in the University of Pennsylvania, has

accepted a professorship of preventive medicine in Washington University, St. Louis.

PROFESSOR GUIGNARD, for fifteen years director of the Paris School of Pharmacy, has resigned his appointment and is succeeded by M. Henry Gautier, professor of mineral chemistry at the school.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

SPECIAL COMMITTEES ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is trying a plan of cooperation with international committees representing the various branches of zoology in an effort to determine in how far it will be possible to reach a unanimous agreement upon the names of the most important zoological genera, together with the type species of the genera in question.

The International Commission of Medical Zoology, established at the Graz Congress, has undertaken a study of over three hundred names applied to the trematodes reported as parasitic in man. This commission is to pass upon the zoological status of the names in respect to synonymy and validity. The report will then be submitted to the International Commission on Nomenclature. It is the plan of the latter commission to publish the report, and to invite criticisms upon the same from the zoologists of the world. After ample opportunity is given for such criticism it is the plan of the commission on nomenclature to attempt to reach a unanimous ruling upon the names, and to submit this ruling to the next international congress.

The secretary of the international commission on nomenclature is inviting specialists in other groups to conduct similar studies upon the most prominent and best known genera. The plan adopted is for the secretary to select three or more specialists of unquestioned international reputation in a given group, and to request these workers to add to their committee any colleagues whom they may desire. It is hoped that by this

means preliminary studies of fundamental and permanent value may be conducted, and that the contending factions, in respect to nomenclature, may be harmoniously united.

The secretary of the commission on nomenclature is adopting the plan of taking man as a center, first working out, so far as may be done unanimously, names to be adopted for the animals most intimately associated with man, and while the undertaking may require years of patient labor, it is hoped eventually to establish a list of not less than ten thousand generic names, agreed upon unanimously, first by the special committee, and then passed upon unanimously by the commission on nomenclature. It is hoped, further, that by this plan an immense number of useless synonyms can be unanimously agreed upon as such, and gradually eliminated from general zoological literature.

The scheme naturally depends upon the amount of cooperation on the part of the special committees, which will be formed as rapidly as the work will justify.

C. W. STILES,

*Secretary International Commission
on Zoological Nomenclature*

FACTS AND PRINCIPLES

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: May I have space in your columns to reply to the criticism of Professor R. S. Woodworth in your issue of November 25, on my article, "American Educational Defects," which was printed in SCIENCE on October 28, 1910? I have no desire to enter into any needless controversy, but Professor Woodworth seems to me to have misunderstood my language and misconceived my purpose in a way that makes an answer desirable.

There would be little profit in my discussing with Professor Woodworth whether my article is banal or not, which is purely a matter of taste and judgment; but one observation in this connection seems to me pertinent, namely, that there is nothing particularly novel about truth, and that, if educational inefficiency is as prevalent as I have claimed it to be, it would not be strange if it had